

TALES OF THE ALHAMBRA

Answer the following questions:

THE MOOR'S LEGACY

1. Who did Peregil help?
2. Why was his wife angry?
3. What did Peregil get as a reward for his help?
4. What did the barber see out of his window?
5. Where did Peregil and the Muslim shop owner go? Why?
6. What did Peregil give to his wife?
7. What did the Muslim do at the end of the story?

THE ENCHANTED SOLDIER

1. What did Don Vincent find?
2. Who did he fall in love with?
3. What did he notice on the Eve of St John?
4. What is the soldier's story?
5. Why can Don Vincent see him?
6. How can Don Vincent break the spell?
7. Why is the soldier still invisible? What happened in the end?

THE ARABIAN ASTROLOGER

1. Who became Aben Habuz' advisor?
2. What did Ibrahim start to build?
3. How did the King Aben fight the battles?
4. What did the astrologer warn the king about?
5. What was the Magic Garden of Irem?
6. What did the king promise to the astrologer?
7. Did he keep his promise? What happened then?

SUMMARY OF THE BOOK 'TALES OF THE ALHAMBRA'

THE MOOR'S LEGACY

This story is about a water carrier called Peregil who worked hard to feed his children and wife. One day, he saw a stranger who was ill. He was a Muslim and he asked him for help. Peregil took him to his house but his wife was furious because they could be discovered and taken to the Inquisition. The Muslim died but before he gave Peregil a box as a reward for his charity. The couple took the body to the river but a neighbour saw them and the next day he told the Mayor about this. The Mayor tried to bring Peregil and his wife to the court but they told him the story and showed him the box with the parchment and the candle inside it.

One day, Peregil took the Arabic parchment to a Muslim shop and the owner told him that what it was written was a spell to recover hidden treasures. The treasure was in the Tower of the Seven Floors on the Alhambra Hill. Peregil asked him to go with him. They found a chest with a treasure. The barber told the Mayor that he saw Peregil's wife wearing jewels. Peregil told the Mayor the truth and the Mayor who was very avaricious wanted to go into the tower. The Mayor, his servant and the barber went with Peregil and the Muslim to the tower. They found the treasure but the Muslim blew out the candle and the floor closed leaving the 3 men inside. The Muslim said to Peregil that it was due to Allah's will and he threw the candle into a river. They would stay there forever unless another adventurer could break the spell.

THE ENCHANTED SOLDIER

Don Vincent was a poor student who played the guitar in the streets in order to earn some money and pay his studies. One day, he found a gold and silver ring which could be very valuable. He went to Granada where he fell in love with a young maiden who took care of an old priest. Her name was Emmeline. On the Eve of St John, everybody went to the town to dance. Don Vincent went there and he sat opposite a bridge. He noticed a soldier but nobody else noticed him because he was invisible.

The soldier told him that he was a soldier of Ferdinand and Isabellas's army and he started guarding this bridge 300 years ago. The soldier asking Don Vincent to follow him. They entered into a dark vault. The soldier told him that he was a prisoner there. In 1483, his army defeated Boabdil, the last king of Granada and

he helped a Muslim to hide some of Boabdil's treasures, but the Muslim tricked him. He put a spell on him and he became invisible. Only the person who wore the ring Don Vincent was wearing could see him. This was the Ring of Solomon. The only way to break the spell was to find a priest who could expell the spirits and a maiden who could touch the chest with the ring. The priest mustn't eat anything for 24 hours.

Don Vincent convinced Emmeline and the priest to help him but when they were into the vault and they were going to divide the treasure, the priest could not resist and he began to eat. The vault closed leaving all of them outside except the soldier.

Besides, Emmeline lost the ring inside the tower. So, the soldier is still in the tower and he can only go out every 100 years to guard the bridge.

THE ARABIAN ASTROLOGER

There was once a Moorish king called Aben Habuz who ruled the kingdom of Granada. He had many enemies who attacked the city but he defended it well.

One day, he met an old Arabian astrologer called Ibrahim who impressed him and he became his advisor.

The astrologer built a big tower with special stones and a chessboard with a model of every enemy kingdom's army. He also put a figure of a Moorish horseman on top of the tower which would turn in the direction of the enemies. So, the king fought the battles with his magical chess pieces.

One day, the magic horseman turned towards a place called Guadix. The king looked at the chessboard but the pieces did not move so he sent his soldiers to Guadix. They returned with a young maiden. She was beautiful and he decided to keep her but the astrologer warned him about this princess. He said that she was a witch but the king ignored him.

The king spent a lot of money on her and the people of Granada did not like her. The people began a rebellion against the king and the king asked Ibrahim for help. The astrologer asked for the maiden and he would give him the Magic Garden, a magic and invisible sanctuary. However, the king had to promise him that the first living creature to enter the garden would be the astrologer's possession. He promised.

The princess became the first to go into the garden but the king did not want to keep his promise so the astrologer disappeared into the earth with the princess.

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS:

THE MOOR'S LEGACY

1. Who did Peregil help? He helped a Muslim in need.
2. Why was his wife angry? Because he brought a Muslim to the house.
3. What did Peregil get as a reward for his help? The Muslim gave him a box as a reward for his charity.
4. What did the barber see out of his window? He saw Peregil and his wife carrying the Muslim's body.
5. Where did Peregil and the Muslim shop owner go? Why? They went to the Tower of the Seven Floors on the Alhambra Hill. Because they wanted to check if the Arabic writing on the parchment was a spell to recover hidden treasures.
6. What did Peregil give to his wife? Peregil gave her a golden bracelet.
7. What did the Muslim do at the end of the story? He blew out the candle and the floor closed with the 3 avaricious men inside tower. They would stay there forever unless another adventurer could break the spell.

THE ENCHANTED SOLDIER

1. What did Don Vincent find? He found an exotic gold and silver ring on the ground.
2. Who did he fall in love with? He fell in love with a young maiden called Emmeline.
3. What did he notice on the Eve of St John? He noticed a tall soldier with a grey beard, guarding the bridge.
4. What is the soldier's story? He told Don Vincent that he was a soldier of Ferdinand and Isabella's army. He started guarding

the bridge 300 years ago.

In 1483, his army defeated Boabdil, the last king of Granada. Then, he helped a Muslim to hide some of Boabdil's treasures into a room at a deserted tower. However, the Muslim tricked him and locked him up and put a spell on him making him invisible.

5. Why can Don Vincent see him? Because he is wearing the gold and silver Ring of Solomon. It's a magic ring.

6. How can Don Vincent break the spell? He must find a priest to expel the bad spirits. The priest must be a good man and he mustn't eat anything for 24 hours.

He must also find a young maiden and she must touch the chest with the treasure with the Ring of Solomon.

7. Why is the soldier still invisible? What happened in the end? At the end of the story, they found and opened the chest with the treasure but when they were going to divide the treasure, the hungry priest began to eat. Therefore, the lid closed and all of them were outside the tower. Don Vincent wanted to go into the vault to help the soldier who was inside but the maiden did not have the ring and they could not open the vault. So, the soldier is still in the tower and the spell has not still been broken.

THE ARABIAN ASTROLOGER

1. Who became Aben Habuz' advisor? An old Arabian astrologer called Ibrahim.

2. What did Ibrahim start to build? He started to build an enormous tower with special stones from an Egyptian pyramid. He put a figure of a Moorish horseman on top of the tower. The figure would always turn in the direction of the king's enemies.

3. How did the King Aben fight the battles? He fought the battles with magical chess pieces.

4. What did the astrologer warn the king about? He warned the king about a princess. He said that she was a witch but the king ignored him.

5. What was the Magic Garden of Irem? This garden was a magic

sanctuary, an invisible place where only people with magic powers could stay. The astrologer told the king that he could make a Paradise like this for him where he could live with his maiden and his people and nobody could find him.

6. What did the king promise to the astrologer? He promised that the first living creature to enter the garden would be his possession.

7. Did he keep his promise? What happened then? No, he didn't. Ibrahim and the princess disappeared forever.